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Tuesday Morning, October 17, 1916.

KEEPING OUT SUBMARINES.

There was probably nothing else for the United States to do as a self-respecting neutral, but to refuse compliance with the Allies' request that we deny harborage to submarines of belligerent powers.

The Allies are willing to have their own submarines barred as well as their foes'. Thus a technical neutrality would be satisfied. But the principle they advocate would in practice be one-sided, and is directed against Germany. A true neutrality requires us to refuse it, just as we have refused the German plea to stop shipping munitions to belligerents, because acquiescence in that case would really benefit only Germany and therefore be unneutral in spirit.

The example of Holland is urged in favor of such a general barring of submarines by neutrals. Holland has yielded, but her acceptance of the principle is merely nominal. She still maintains the right to shelter belligerent submarines when damaged or driven by bad weather, and to receive and provision them in her colonies, when they are distant from their own bases. Those exceptions practically nullify the principle that England and France seek to establish. The same attitude would justify us in harboring U-boats like the Deutschland and the U-53 at any time.

There is a veiled threat in the proposal as made by the Allies. They point out the danger to our own submarines if we admit others to our territorial waters. Attacking German craft, the allied warships may destroy ours by mistake, since recognition of such vessels is difficult. To that we can only give the answer that we gave Germany when she warned our merchant shipping away from British waters on the ground that her warships might unwittingly sink our vessels instead of the enemy's. We told Germany that it was the duty of her commanders not to make mistakes. British and French commanders have the same duty as regards submarines.

This reasoning seems sound as matters stand. And yet, looking to the future, it must be admitted that the policy we now repudiate may appear desirable hereafter. In spite of all the international lawyers may say, submarines are not like other warships, and cannot act like them or be treated like them. There are many problems yet to be solved regarding the legal status of this type of sea fighter.

Nothing would suit the American people better than to be able to keep all alien war submarines forever away from our shores. If at some future time we can gain such an aim by common agreement of all the powers to bar belligerent submarines from neutral waters, we shall probably do so. The trouble now is simply that the time is not opportune.

POOR GREECE!

The ruin of Greece proceeds apace. King Constantine still hesitates to join the Allies in active warfare—presumably because his wife won't let him. Constantine is strong for peace, especially domestic peace. When has history shown a monarch so loyal to an alien relationship as the King of the Hellenes is to his royal brother-in-law the Kaiser?

Constantine has suffered humiliation after humiliation. The greater part of his kingdom has fallen away from him. The ablest statesman of Greece heads an active and growing revolt. Bulgaria, his country's chief enemy, has invaded his soil with impunity. The Allies virtually occupy all the rest, in the guise of friends but under conditions that must make even pro-Ally Greeks blush with shame at their country's degradation.

The crowning humiliation has been the seizure by the Allies of Greek warships and railroads, and their order for the dismantling of the coast forts. The king's tottering government has acquiesced; there was nothing else for it to do. The royal brother-in-law is too far from Athens to give aid.

Poor Greece! A fine old estate with quarrelsome neighbors fighting all over the front yard and tramping down the garden in the rear and breaking the orchard trees and killing the cattle, and even overrunning the house and defying the householder.

It's hard to blame the Allies, in view of everything. Possibly Constantine, too, deserves sympathy, and has a stronger case than has yet been shown. But the one sure thing in the whole shameful and confusing chapter is that Greece has lost an opportunity to regain much of her ancient glory by following Venizelos' plan, and that no Greek today can look the rest of the world in the eye with honest pride.

ART AND MUSIC FOR EVERYBODY.

In small cities and towns where there are no art museums and no schools of music, there is a great need for the very things they would supply. And there is a way to get them for the every-day men and women who want them without any great expense or trouble. That way lies through the establishment of such departments in the public libraries, whether large or small.

Many libraries in the smaller cities already have the beginnings of very excellent art and music collections. They have not simply books about music and art, but collections of musical scores, mounted photographs and prints. And these collections are circulated just as books are.

One library has a music room where borrowers may try over scores if they wish. The room is sound-proof so that patrons in other parts of the library are not disturbed when the piano is in use.

Such collections do not have to begin on a large scale. A small beginning would open the way for greater interest in these things, and the department would grow as soon as people realized that it was there for them to use. Every one interested and able ought to do his or her share to further this branch of community education and service.

TOLERABLE PRICES.

Our average retail prices for food products, according to the federal department of labor, from the beginning of the war until last April rose 12.6 per cent. The rise is still greater now. We might put it at as much as 15 or 16 per cent.

But considered in comparison with the experience of other nations, that is trivial. In every neutral country in Europe prices have risen much higher. In Norway, for instance, the increase is 63 per cent. Most of the belligerent countries are still more unfortunate. British food prices are said to be 55 per cent higher than before the war. In Germany, average prices are 100 per cent higher, and in Austria, 500 per cent higher.

Moreover, the secretary of labor says that in the United States wages have risen more than prices. Thus, while food is cheaper here than anywhere else in the world, we have more money to buy it with. Never were high prices so tolerable as in America today.

PRESIDENTS LONG-LIVED.

The presidency of the United States, with all its worries and exactions, seems to be a healthful job. The London Lancet comments with surprise on the "remarkable longevity" of our executives. The ages of our various presidents at death range from 49 to 90 years. The three who died youngest, Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley, aged respectively 56, 49 and 58, were cut off in their prime by assassination. All three would presumably, in the natural course of events, have lived at least the average presidential age, which is 69.

Even including the possibility of untimely death by violence, the chances are, therefore, that any president will live to within a year of the traditional threescore and ten. If a president reckons on living out his natural life, he may reasonably expect to live far into the seventies.

It may be that the scrupulous care of his health that every president is obliged to take really counteracts the wearing effect of his office, and even leaves him with improved physique at the end of his term. There are probably other factors, however, that are more important.

It should be remembered that there is small possibility of presidents dying young, from the fact that none of them are elected young, and most of them on their inauguration are already well advanced in middle age. It should also be remembered that any man who so distinguishes himself above his fellow-citizens that he becomes a natural choice for the presidency must by virtue of that very fact have had a far better natural endowment than the average man. This exceptional physical and mental vigor of course tends to make him outlive ordinary men.

THE HIGH COST OF PIE.

One of the New York papers turns from the price of milk and bread to a consideration of the price of pie. According to the figures given, the situation is truly deplorable.

The editor recalls the fact that a pie used to be cut into four sections, each quarter retailing for five cents. Then they began to cut the pie into six pieces, and finally seven, without any corresponding reduction in price. Finally, in the furor of war prices, the cost of a wedge is jerked up to 10 cents. The number of wedges has slipped back to six again; but even so, the restaurant is getting 60 cents for a pie that used to bring only 20 cents. Surely the cost of pie material hasn't risen 300 per cent.

There are still places, outside of New York at least, where one's favorite brand of pie can be obtained for a nickel. But alas! It isn't the pie of yore. Instead of delicate, flaky crust and luscious filling of apple, peach, custard or mince, there is tough crust tasting of stale lard or cottonseed oil, and an insipid indeterminate filler that seems to be the same for every species, no matter what the waiter calls for.

Oh, for the pies that mother used to make! The crust might be tough occasionally, but we never had any difficulty in telling what was inside of it. The aroma told the tale, long before the browned and mounded masterpiece appeared, and the oozing juice corroborated it. And the pieces were always big enough; or if they were cut small, to go around a big family, there was always another pie or two where the first one came from. "Them was happy days!"

Germany is reported to have called to the colors men between 58 and 63 years of age. And yet there are still some German-Americans (who came to America to escape military service) who defend Prussian militarism.

ENGINEERS BEGIN FIRST WORK UPON NEW ARIZONA ROAD

Establish two Camps Between
Jerome and Mesa—Third
Camp Soon to Be Made
Near Granite Reef.

PRESCOTT, Oct. 16.—An arrival yesterday from Verde valley reported that two camps of engineers had been established and are now locating the line of the new Mesa and Clarkdale railway, the first party being in the Middle Verde and the other in the canyon below Camp Verde.

It was also stated that a third camp has been established at Granite Reef, north of Mesa, and all are working north toward Clarkdale. Over 100 men are in the three camps, their movements indicating a purpose from which it was believed the final surveys are being made, from which grading of the roadbed will follow.

It was also learned that as long ago as last April a reconnoitering of the route was made on a preliminary survey, but the real intent was strictly shielded from the public under a pretext that mining matters were under consideration. Every engineer, it is said, was strictly warned not to disclose the motive for this character of field work, but a few months later the filing of certain articles of intention with the corporation commission of the state was interpreted as but the forerunner of a railroad being under consideration. Actual construction, however, is contemplated. In fact, it was given out at one of the camps that the final survey is being made, and in a few months actual construction will be under headway. Other important developments in opening up a new country to railroad traffic, it is intimated, will affect the region north of Verde valley, and may extend as far north as Navajo county, where the big timber belt and new coal fields are waiting to be tapped.

ARN'T WE GLAD WE'RE NOT OVER IN THE UNITED STATES

By Brinkerhoff



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Persons desiring to sign this declaration and become members of the Citizens' Protective League, can find list for signature at any business house of a member of the League.



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